

Cerritos, CA -- Congresswoman Linda Sánchez today commended her 2008 fall interns on the successful completion of their fall internships.

"I thank each and every one of these bright individuals for their contribution," said Congresswoman Linda Sánchez. "The work they do -- interacting with constituents as well as office operations -- provides an invaluable service to the 39th district."

Congresswoman Sánchez began her internship program to give local students the opportunity to apply their leadership and talents while getting a firsthand look at how Congress works. Interns become responsible for helping manage independent projects in casework, public relations, grant development, office management, and foreign language translation.

"It is encouraging to see young people choosing to participate in public service," said Congresswoman Sánchez. "I look forward to seeing these interns accomplish many great things in their careers."

Sanchez' 2008 fall interns include:

HAWAIIAN GARDENS

Leonardo Lozano, of Hawaiian Gardens, currently attends Cal State Fullerton where he is pursuing a major in political science and a minor in English.

"My experience working in the office has been great," said Lozano. "I enjoyed working with the staff members and other interns in the office. This internship allowed me to see the effort put forth, by both the Congresswoman and the staff members in her District Office, to help constituents deal with issues they may be facing. Before this internship I did not know that, as a constituent, you can call your representative and ask for help dealing with federal agencies. I feel that I have learned a lot from this experience. I am definitely going to miss coming in the office, interacting with constituents, attending events with the staff members, and sitting in on meetings. Through this internship I got an inside look to what goes on and how things work in a congressional office."

LOS ANGELES

David Zavala, of Los Angeles, attends the University of California - Irvine, where he majors in political science and Spanish.

"The Congressional Internship with Congresswoman Linda Sánchez has been a very rewarding experience," said Zavala. "Interns gain valuable knowledge of the congressional level of government while working closely with passionate and exceptional individuals. From engaging in various research projects to attending educational events with the Congresswoman and her staff, interns develop strong communicational and professional skills that are vital for future success. I truly enjoyed being a part of Team Sánchez."

LYNWOOD

David Mendoza, of Lynwood attends Cerritos College where he majors in history and political

science.

"The first step to changing the world begins in your own backyard," says Mendoza. "By taking on this opportunity I was able to witness a first hand perspective in doing just that. This internship took me beyond the desk and telephone and into the hearts of the people who needed our help. Whether it was participating in community outreach or conducting research for casework, this internship has proven to be a dynamic experience."

SOUTH GATE

Yadira Bribiesca, of Florence-Firestone, is a student at Southeast High School in South Gate. "I believe working with constituents and helping them out is one of the most memorable experiences I will take with me," said Bribiesca. "It is that "Thank you" you receive from them that makes you feel that your work is worth it. Aside from this I am grateful that I was able to have hands on experience on how government functions on a local level. Also, I believe that I was able to grow in my organizational and speaking skills - just to name a few. This is totally worth it!"

Joshua Quinteros, a graduate of South Gate High School earned a degree from Cal State Long Beach and is currently pursuing his J.D. from Southwestern Law School.

"The internship has provided me with an insight on the issues that are very important to the constituents within the 39th District," said Quinteros. "The internship was unlike internship horror stories I have heard, since I was able to assist caseworkers with research on various fields. It has given me valuable experience that I will help me in my career goals."

WHITTIER

Janelle Ramos, of Whittier is a student at St. Joseph's High School.

"This internship has given me the ability to truly discover what the word passion really means," said Ramos. "I have learned the type of person and professional I would like to be, and the difference between having a job and having a career. Overall it is the hard working people here who have inspired me to take an interest in the world around me and show me importance of that knowledge. So I encourage others to be impacted by these wonderful people and join the Sánchez team!"

To learn more about Sánchez' congressional internships, including deadlines and application information visit www.lindasanchez.house.gov/internship or call (562)860-5050.